

AMUAAAGC Newsletter - January 2023

January 2023
Volume 2, Issue 2



Executive Committee:

President: Dr. Zafeer Ahmad
Vice-President: Dr. Shakil Khan
Secretary: Ms. Rubina Jamil
Treasurer: Mr. Ans Ahmed

Board Members:

Dr. Ahmadullah Siddiqi - Chairperson
Mr. Mohammad Shahanshah Ansari
Dr. Israrul Haque Ansari
Dr. Gulam Waris
Mr. Jawed Aslam



Dr. Zafeer Ahmed, Ph.D.

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President's Message

We had a very productive year in 2022 because of your immense support and participation and hope to continue the same kind of support and commitments in the year 2023. We believe in transparency and will continue to provide an update on regular basis. The committees will continue to have separate meetings with the committee members and have open discussions without any interference from the President. We are glad to report that twelve more people joined AMUAA-GC, and the membership increased from 113 to 125 in last three months.

AMUAA-GC organized a program and **Dinner to celebrate the 205th birth anniversary of Sir Syed Ahmad Khan** on Saturday, October 22, 2022. More than 120 people attended the program. **Mr. Ajmal Sufiyan** conducted the program as convener of the event. The keynote speaker of this event was **Prof. Muqtedar Khan**, Department of Political Science, and International Relations. AMUAA-GC has also recognized the speaker and presented the memorable plaque. **Mr. Somnath Ghosh**, Counselor General of India Chicago was the chief guest of the event. AMUAA-GC also recognized **Dr. Santosh Kumar**, Founder, & Executive Director, of Metropolitan Asian Family Services for her Outstanding Community Services and Support of AMUAA-GC. There was also a mini mushaira held at the end of Sir Syed Day Celebrations. Four local poets participated.

The 48th Annual Sir Syed Day Mushaira was held online on Sunday, November 20, 2022. Due to international poet's inability to arrive in the U. S. on time for the Mushaira and Covid situation continuing, the Mushaira was organized online via Zoom under the leadership of Dr. Abdullah of Washington, D. C.

Orphan Girls Hostel project is completed now with the generous support from the AMUAA-GC members. We have provided the complete report with the progress made from March 2022 till September 2022. The project was completed in \$31,000 although the cost estimate provided was \$40,000. The AMUAA-GC EC and Board members thank sponsors and donors for realizing the importance of this project. This residential accommodation will house approximately 40 orphan girls and provide them with a place to stay and get an education in a safe environment.

Recent Events

- * Annual Sir Syed Iftar and dinner October 22, 2022
- * Monthly EC/Board Meetings
 - Jan 3rd, 2023
 - Feb 7th, 2023
 - Mar 7th, 2023
 - Apr 4th, 2023
 - May 2nd, 2023
 - Jun 6th, 2023
 - Jul 4th, 2023

Highlights

- AMUAA-GC organized a program and **Dinner to celebrate the 205th birth anniversary of Sir Syed Ahmad Khan** on Saturday, October 22, 2022.
- The 48th Annual Sir Syed Day Mushaira was held online on Sunday, November 20, 2022.
- Orphan Girls Hostel construction is completed.
- The membership increased from 113 to 125 in last three months.
- AMUAAAGC EC/Board and Standing committees Meetings were conducted regularly.

Financial Status

Date	Bank Balance		
	Total	General Fund	Education Fund
Jul 15 th 2022	\$72,508.63	\$10,808.31	\$61,700.32
Sep 12 th 2022	\$72,068.28	\$10,367.96	\$61,700.32
Dec 31 st , 2022	\$77,307.44	\$7,683.04	\$69,624.40

Membership Update

Summary of Membership 2022-2023	Total
Annual Members	89
Life Members	36
Total Members (As of December 31st, 2022)	125

Note: Membership increased from 113 to 125 in three months.

Please renew your membership before March 31, 2023, to continue your membership.

New Members*

Dr. Badar M Zaheer Dr. M.T. Aliniazi Aejaz Hashmi Shagufta Hashmi	Dr. Tanveer Azmat Dr. Saifuddin Mumtaz Ansari Seema Ansari Ayesha Siddiqui	Mohammad Farhan Khan Syed Moinuddin Hashmi Taj S. Hashmi Dr. Masood Akhtar
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Note: *All annual members

Standing Committee Updates

Committee Name and Members	Updates
1. Bylaws Committee Mr. Mohammad Shahanshah Ansari (Chair) Mr. Ajmal Sufiyan Dr. Israrul Haque Ansari Dr. Shakil Khan Dr. Gulam Waris	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No meeting conducted by committee recently but have plan to meet in coming months.
2. Education Committee Dr. Israrul Haque Ansari (Chair) Dr. Saifuddin Sheikh Dr. Syed Shahabuddin Dr. Gulam Waris Dr. Mohammad Ahmadullah Siddiqi	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A new proposal being reviewed by Education Committee for funding and in final stage. Education committee meeting consistently to review all the proposals submitted by members.
3. Information Technology (IT) Committee Mr. Mohammad Shahanshah Ansari (Chair) Mr. Ajmal Sufiyan Mr. Shahbaz Alam Mr. Mohammad Irfan Khan Mr. Khalid Sayeed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meeting was held on 7th January 2023 Committee agreed to redesign the template of newsletter in coming months through a professional agency and improve its look and feel and overall presentation. Discussed a proposal for website renovation and suggested some changes to include in the proposal. Committee distributed the routine work related to IT among the committee members so activities can be shared and completed effectively.
4. Membership Committee Dr. Ahmadullah Siddiqi (Chair) Mr. Ajmal Sufyan Dr. Gulam Waris Mr. Jawed Aslam	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The membership committee had a Zoom meeting on September 27. The committee made the following decisions. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Contact all the members who did not renew this year. Reach out to potential members and try to recruit new members before the Sir Syed Day program. New members will be offered one free admission to the program. More programs will be organized to connect with and engage with the members. 12 Annual members have joined AMUAA-GC in last 3 months with a consistent effort by committee members
5. Social & Cultural Committee Dr. Shakil Khan (Chair) Dr. Haris Jamil Dr. Asefa Ansari Dr. Syed Shahabuddin Mr. Ajmal Sufyan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sir Syed Iftar and Dinner program venue and date have been finalized. Date: March 25, 2023, Venue: Sullivan Community center, 635 N Aspen Dr, Vernon Hills, IL 60061 Talks are underway for the Qawwali programme for June 2023. Mr. Waseem Iftekhhar sahab has kindly agreed to help in organizing this event.

Sir Syed Day Program, October 22, 2022

Report by: **Ajmal Sufiyan (Convenor of Sir Syed Day)**

AMU Alumni Association of Greater Chicago (AMUAA-GC) organized a program and **Dinner to celebrate the 205th birth anniversary of Sir Syed Ahmad Khan** on Saturday, October 22, 2022, at the BUFFALO GROVE COMMUNITY ARTS CENTER 225 MCHENRY ROAD BUFFALO GROVE, IL 60089, USA. More than 120 people attended the program.

Mr. Ajmal Sufiyan conducted the program as convenor of the event. In the welcome note, Ajmal Sufiyan said "Sir Syed has not only opened a college but showed a direction, hope, and vision to the Indians. Sir Syed Day is very close to our hearts and is celebrated all over the world by its alumni and well-wishers in remembrance of Sir Syed Ahmad Khan for his extraordinary contribution towards the educational upliftment of Indian Muslims."

The President of AMUAA-GC, **Dr. Zafeer Ahmad** provided an overview of the organization. He described the number of new initiatives and programs AMUAA-GC is conducting throughout the year like Sir Syed Day, Mushaira, and other programs including educational/cultural programs, Ramadan Iftar, and the annual picnic. He provided the details of the Orphan Girls Hostel project at Aligarh Bachchon Ka Ghar, Aligarh, India, and urged everyone to support educational projects of underprivileged Girls. He also appealed to people to come forward and become members of the association and support more projects.

The keynote speaker of this event was **Prof. Muqtedar Khan**, Department of Political Science, and International Relations. In the keynote address, Dr. Khan emphasized the contribution of Sir Syed in making modern India and Sir Syed was the leader for all Indians not only Muslims. He also highlighted the current economic situation of Indian Muslims and how Indians in the USA can assemble the knowledge and become torchbearers. Education is the only solution for the prosperity and advancement of Muslims. He also emphasized the need for dialogue to overcome misunderstandings. AMU associations spread across the world has a platform and they can collectively impact huge policies by pooling the resources.

AMUAA-GC has also recognized the chief guest and keynote speaker and presented the memorable plaque. **Mr. Somnath Ghosh**, Counselor General of India Chicago was the chief guest of the event. In his speech, he also said education is the way to move forward in this modern world, and also mentioned it is important to become rational, human, and scientific in your views. AMUAA-GC also recognized **Dr. Santosh Kumar**, Founder, & Executive Director, of Metropolitan Asian Family Services for her Outstanding Community Services and Support of AMUAA-GC.

AMUAAGC also organized a mini mushaira during its Sir Syed Day Celebrations. Four local poets participated.





Annual Sir Syed Day Mushaira, November 20, 2022

Report by: **Dr. Ahmadullah Siddiqi (Convenor of Annual Sir Syed Day Mushaira)**

48th Annual Sir Syed Day Mushaira was held on Sunday, November 20, 2022, 10 AM – 1 PM Central Time. Due to international poet's inability to arrive in the U. S. on time for the Mushaira and Covid situation continuing, the Mushaira was organized online via Zoom under the leadership of Dr. Abdullah of Washington, D. C. AMU Alumni Association and a committee consisting of six members representing the participating AMU Alumni Associations of Birmingham, Alabama, Chicago, Illinois, Cincinnati and Cleveland, Ohio, Jacksonville, Florida and Washington, D.C.

The mushaira started about 20-25 minutes late due to technical problems. It was presided over by one of the most senior Aligs in the U. S. and founder of the Los-Angeles based Urdu Markaz International, Nayyar Aapaa. The participating poets included Azhar Inayati and Rajesh Reddy from India, Rafiuddin

Raaz, Rahman Faris and Umar Najmi from Pakistan and Ali Meenai, Nayyara Aapaa and Farah Kamran from the U. S.

The Mushaira lasted for about three hours. Most associations have organized watch parties where members got together to listen to the Mushaira. Thanks to Br. Jawed Aslam who organized the watch party for AMUAAGC members at his house in Villa Park. However, due to cold and rainy weather, very few people showed up at his house. Jawed sahib had an excellent arrangement for watching the Mushaira and provided refreshments and lunch. It is not known how many AMUAAGC members watched the Mushaira. The cost of the Mushaira was \$300.00 for each participating association.

Hopefully the national mushaira will be conducted on-location next year and would attract larger participation from the community.

Educational Project, January 2023.

Report by: **Dr. Israrul H. Ansari (Chair, Education Committee)**

The president received a new education project from Bhopal, MP. The school was established in 1974 and serves from primary to higher secondary schools. It serves approximately 280 students from poor financial backgrounds (approx. 52% girls and 48% boys). It provides mid-day meals to all kids and has 9 female staffs, 3 male staff, and 4 guest teachers. It has a valid school registration document and a valid FCRA account in state bank of India, New Delhi. The original proposal included school renovation and development of sports facilities. The school was painted nearly 10 years ago, and there has been extensive deterioration in the ceilings and classroom walls. The cracks appeared in many places. The total cost for school renovation and building a playground/sports equipment was proposed. The total cost of the original project was \$35000 in the initial application.

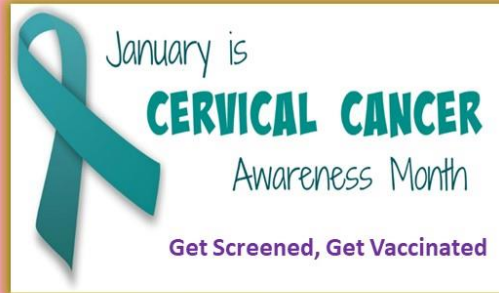
The education committee reviewed the project on November 01, 2022. The committee members liked the project but recommended re-submitting the proposal focusing on a single project. The school management modified the project and re-submitted the project again for school renovation only. The revised project has every minute detail of school renovation. The modified project will cover an area of approximately 5500 sq ft, focusing on school renovation, costing \$20,000. Brother Masood Akhtar, Madison, WI., agreed to sponsor the project and provided 10% of the project's cost. The committee members again reviewed the project on January 02, 2023, and further requested a couple of documents from the school. The request has been sent to the school management, and we are awaiting their responses. The final decision will be based on the availability of documents received and reviewed by education committee members.

Health Corner:

Article By: **Dr. Mohammad Athar**

Cervical Cancer: The United States Congress designated January as Cervical Health Awareness month.

The United States Congress designated January as Cervical Health Awareness Month. Nearly 13,000 women in the United States are diagnosed with cervical cancer each year and almost one third will die, but the disease is virtually always preventable with appropriate screening (Pap and HPV tests) and vaccination.



What can I do?

Please call your relatives, loved ones and friends, ask whether have got their Screening tests done?

If not, request to consult their Health Care Provider.

If your call could save one life, worth it!

And whosoever saves a life, it is as though he had saved all mankind (Quran 5:32)

EARLY DETECTION SAVES LIVES

It is preventable. It is treatable. It is time to eliminate it.

Screenings Saves Lives!

PREVENTION IS IN YOUR HANDS

Mohammad Masood Athar, MD, MPH

Upcoming Events:

Sir Syed Day Iftar and Dinner:

- **Date:** Saturday, March 25, 2023.
- **Convenor:** Dr. Haris Jamil
- **Venue:** Sullivan Community Centre, Vernon Hills, IL 60061

Support AMUAAGC:



ALIGARH MUSLIM UNIVERSITY Y ALUMNI ASSOCIATION OF GREATER CHICAGO

**Support Education Projects
(Target \$50,000 for 2022-2023)**

Please write your checks to:
AMUAA Greater Chicago,
P. O. Box 67 Wadsworth, IL 60083

Or donate by a direct transfer to the bank using Zelle through email
info@amuaachicago.org

Or donate online at www.amuaachicago.org

All your gifts & donations are tax deductible!

